Message Text

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ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DRC-01 SS-20 SPC-03 /081 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2493

COMSIXTHFLT

INFO SECDEF

CNO

USDOCOSOUTH

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USMISSION NATO

JCS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMCONSUL ADANA

CONFIDENTIAL ANKARA 0493

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MOPS, TU

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH SOYSAL: PORT VISITS

REF: ANKARA 0459

1. IN COURSE OF MEETING MORNING JANUARY 21 WITH SOYSAL, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS DIV., MFA, HE ALLUDED TO RECENT ISTANBUL SHIP VISIT CANCELLATIONS, AND I TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO AGAIN NOTE IMPORTANCE TO SIXTH FLEET OF THESE VISITS AND CONTINUING IMPORTANCE OF SIXTH FLEET TO TURKISH AND U.S. SECURITY. SOYSAL INDICATED THAT THIS QUESTION HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH ECEVIT, A POINT NOT PREVIOUSLY REVEALED IN OUR CONVERSATIONS EITHER WITH YAVUZALP OR FONMIN BAYULKEN, AND ADDED THAT ECEVIT'S COMMENT AT THE TIME WAS THAT A GOVT LED BY HIM WOULD CONTINUE TO AGREE TO ACTIVITIES OF THIS KIND CONFIDENTIAL

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GROWING OUT OF TURKEY'S INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, BUT THAT

HE HAD NOT WANTED VISIT TO COME AT WHAT HE THOUGHT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY DELICATE PERIOD IN THE FORMATION PROCESSES OF HIS NEW GOVT. BASED ON THESE REMARKS BY PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE, SOYSAL EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT ONCE IN OFFICE ECEVIT WOULD NOT BE RELUCTANT TO APPROVE VISIS. SOYSAL ADDED THAT HE HAD RECOMMENDED THAT THE RECENTLY DISCUSSED VISITS BE REDUCED IN SIZE, BUT ALLOWED TO GO FORWARD ON DATES PROPOSED, BUT THAT APPARENTLY QTE THE POLITICIANS UNQTE DID NOT AGREE WITH HIM.

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